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THE
KNAVERY
OF
ASTROLOGY
DISCOVER'D,
IN
OBSERVATIONS

Upon

Every Month, of the Year 1680.

TOGETHER

With the Nature of the Seven Planets, &c.

By *Tim, Tell-Troth*, Star-gazer to the
Great *MOGUL*.

*Almanack-makers you may go Sh—
Your Prognostications ne're will hit.*

LONDON, Printed for T. B. and R. E. 1680.

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Twelve Months of the Year 1836
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By the Rev. J. Knab, Star-gazer to the
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THE P R E F A C E.

Reader,

I Have a mind to speak to thee a word or two in *sa-*
ber earnest : For though I have indulged to a little
Mirth in my Observations, yet now I must desire
thee to be serious with me a few *Minutes*. If thou
hast been used to be a *Querent* in these matters, that is,
gone to *Astrologers* to know of their *Wisdoms*, when
and whom thou shalt Marry, when thy Affairs in the world
will mend; that is, when thou shalt more mind thy busi-
ness; and have more wit than to ask such simple *Questi-*
ons : Perhaps the buying this Pamphlet will save thee some
Shillings in thy Pocket, besides easing thy head of *Super-*
stitious Concoits.

As to the *Antiquity* of *Astrology*, I cannot but ac-
knowledge it exceeding great : For the first Founder of it,
the Devil, knew how advantageous an Instrument it would
prove to the promoting his Interest in the world; there-
fore he would not neglect, by the hand of *Astrology*, to
lead People betimes into as gross *Superstition* as might be.
Tis so apt to infect with *Superstition*, that the Artists
themselves cannot avoid it : For they cannot help, for their
lives, depending more on the *Transits* or *Aspects* of the
Planets, than the *Providence* of the All-seeing God.
How will a gross *Transit* of *Saturn* or *Mars* make them

tremble, almost at their own Shadow? And how will a Kind Aspect from the Fortunes give them unreasonable assurance beyond measure? The one makes them timorous and neglective of their Affairs, the other gives them more Confidence than Discretion will allow.

Perhaps some will wonder that I fantasie rather the Devil, than Ptolomy, to be the Author of Astrology: If this place were proper for so long a Discourse, as the proof of that would bear, I would not doubt perswading you to be of my mind. No body else could have put so many absurd Conceits into so good a method of Chance-medley, as to make them hit often enough to perswade a knowing man to believe them. Therefore let me advise thee, have a care of indulging this fond Superstition: Think not to know more of future things than God will suffer thee, or thinks fit for thee. You pretend to ask Questions in Jeast, but soon believe the Resolutions in Earnest: And why shouldst thou desire to know thy future Fate? If it be good, comfortably expect: The surprize of a blessing will add to its value. If it be bad, it will come soon enough, without giving warning, and doubling thy Torments beforehand. I speak this out of Charity to thee, for God never blesses those that are so over-inquisitive in future Events. Thou hast a Power to be Virtuous, be so, and thou needest not fear.

And now Friend, as I have taken upon me seriously to admonish thee, so I must (whether in jeast or earnest, I leave it to thee) desire one thing of thee by all means, that if thou shouldst chance, before I'm aware, to know who I am, what I am, or where I live, thou'lt be so kind as to conceal me from the knowledge of Astrologers: For they would presently Erect such a wicked Scheme of my Nativity, that I might lose thy good Opinion for ever afterwards.

Fare thee well.

old ni most of you it ; and delight in it ; and you



The Nature of the Seven Planets.

S A T U R N

WAS of a cruel Devillish-humour while he lived upon Earth, and Astrologers make him still as bad for all he's in Heaven. But I wonder why they would Exalt him at that rate to the superior Seat in the Heavens ; was it for his wickedness that he deserved so well ?

When he's well Dignified, he's pretty well pleas'd (as people indeed generally are, when every thing happens to their minds) nay he's then supposed to be a very solid notable old man : But when ill Dignified, he's so ill natur'd and mischievous, there's no bearing with it ; he would cut your Throat, break your neck, poyson ye, any thing, therefore away with him, and let's hasten to *Jupiter*.

J U P I T E R

Is thought to be as good as good may be, and has the Character of a very worthy good Gentleman, and is mightily belov'd by all ; for he, they say, is the bestower of Wealth and Riches ; and for that Reason, more than for his goodness perhaps, is called the *Greater Fortune* : Nevertheless, if he is not Honour'd and Dignified too, as they call it, he can be as angry and vexatious as another.

'Tis a General Rule, that all the Planets are Ambitious,

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ous, and delight in Honour, if you set them in the *Midheaven*, oh how you please them, how kind they'l be to you! But if you put 'em into Prison, or make 'em Sick, by putting them in the 12th, or 6th, House of your Figure, I assure you they'l prove no good Friends.

Jupiter has abundance of excellent Qualities: he'll comfort your stomach with the Spices he governs, he gives you no less than *Partridge* and *Pheasant* for your meat, loves the Church mightily, and brings us good weather. Therefore all the Planets love him, besides *Mars*.

M A R S

Is a bold swaggering Huff, that despises every body besides himself, and is very unfortunate to meet him in a cross humour. When he's well pleased with Dignities he can make an excellent Souldier, and loves War rather than Duels; but vex him once, by putting him out of his places, or disbanding him, and he'll turn *Thief*, and bid you stand; prove a hot-brain'd malecontent, a *Knight of the Post*, and in this angry mood he'll have at his heels a Shole of Marshals-men, Serjeants, Bailiffs, Chymists, Cut-throats of all sorts. He's as hard as *Iron*, governs Wolves, Tygers, and Vultures, and notwithstanding all this, is not thought to be so bad as *Saturn*. He is but the *lesser Infortune*.

The Sun

Signifies Majesty, Kings and Emperours, as well as Nobles, and should therefore be spoken of with care and reverence. 'Tis to the Sun's real Influences, by a kind and gentle heat, that we owe our *Spring*, and all benefits of Nature. He gives life to many Creatures

by

by his sole power. And yet for all this, Astrologers say, that if he does but chance not to sit in his Throne with all his splendour and glory, if he chance to lose some of the Dignities they have given him, he is then but a Cracker, a Puff, a kind of proud Coxcomb: But in truth they deserve to be called to account for it, for so great a *scandalum Magnatum*.

V E N U S

Is a Nocturnal Planet, and therefore loves the works of Darkness; when she liv'd upon Earth, 'twas in Quality of a pretty little Whore; her company was so well lik'd of by the Astrologers, that they translated her into the Heavens, and gave her the finest and most delicate Star our Eyes can behold. How her Profession made her a Goddess, I cannot well tell. 'Tis certain she had most excellent Fortune to be so advanced; where *Mars* is as obliging to her as her heart can wish. When she is Dignified, and has her best Ornaments on, she is contented only to make a man a merry, brisk, Por Companion: but once out of her Geer, and meanly placed, she produces very sad scandalous Fellows; the very sink of Lewdness and debauchery. Nevertheless she is a *Lesser Fortune*, and happy is the man to whom she happens to bestow a Beam of her Goodness.

M E R C U R Y

Is neither Fish nor Flesh, good nor bad, but according to the Company he is in. If he sees *Saturn*, he's sower and morose; if *Mars*, he quarrels and swears Dam-me; if *Venus*, he's presently her humble Servant, and oh how sweet! he's naturally a very airy Youth, and loves Fairs and Ordinaries, as much as *Venus* does a Dancing-School. Give him but the upper-hand, and shew

shew him Honour, and he'll talk excellently well, 'twould do one good to hear him; but if you offer to Degrade him, he'll set the Company a chatting as wisely as Gossips, altogether at a Christning; he then inclines people from Astrologers to turn down-right Conjurers; from tolerable company to turn insufferable Newsmongers, and, when the Press is open, wretched Pamphleteers.

The M O O N

Was formerly the great Goddess of Conjurat^on, when there were such things in the world, for now Astrologers are no Conjurers I am sure; yet they are very observant of every the least motion she makes, and give her some signification in every thing that happens. To tell you the truth, she is a *true Lady of the Times*, she knows not her own mind two Minutes, loves Novelty dearly, and invents new Fashions. Sometimes she shews her *broad face*, and is all in her hair; anon she's all of a *Black-patch*, that you can see nothing of her *Face*; and will sometimes wear the *Horn*; her self in a Frolick: For my part I would not trust her of all Women I know; she's as changeable as the Wind, a meer Jilt, I know not what to make of her, nor she her self. Yet she signifies all *women*, from the *Queen* to the *Oyster-woman*. If she's ill *Dignified*, nothing can signify worse, a *fettish, drunken woman*.

Observations

Observations on January, 1680.

AT the beginning of this Month and year, *Venus*, being in sweet and kind Aspect to *Mercury*, should render *Ladies* very flexible, but grim *Saturn* about the latter end, being in direct Opposition to the charming fair one, whose looks are said to be fortunate to all she bestows them upon in any kind way, quite contrary to the nature of other Whores, this mischievous *Saturn*, I say, may blast the hopes again of all *Venus's* Admirers, unless they chance to have *Jupiter* on their side, who, about the same time, as *Saturn* is to frown and frowns, does endeavour to cheer up the fair Lady by the most submissive complemental *Trine* Addresses he is able to make: but poor *Mercury*, I pity him this Month, he is most sadly afflicted indeed, *Jupiter*, *Mars*, and the *Sun*, conspire against him, besides he's *Retrograde*, and would hardly be able to stand, were he not in a Sign a little of his own Nature, which may signify that *Astrologers*, *Thieves*, and *Tailors* will have but very little to do; that Querents about Matrimony will now be very few; how do we know but it may be so ominous, as to tell us, that many Gentlemen, signified by *Mercury*, may now lose a considerable Match at *Bowls* or *Tennis*, or there may be breaking of Pates at an Ordinary? nay perhaps that the very *Art of Astrology* shall begin to be suspected by some who have been a long time wonderful Admirers of it.

2. * ♀ ♀.	2. ♀ R.	7. ♂ ♂ ♀.
28. ♂ ♀ ♀.	9. □ ♀ ♀.	
30. Δ ♀ ♀.	10. ○ ♂ ♀.	

B

Observations

Observations on February, 1680.

Saturn, though he's as weak as an old man with three Legs, and commonly as frappish and surly, yet being kindly aspected this Month by the Sun's excellent Majesty, by Mercury pricking up his Ears again, and by his Fellow-makebate Mars, walkes the grand Paw as stately as any *Monsieur* on Horse-back, being in *Cancer*, it sometimes makes him clap his *Breast* with a strained Hum, and cry sound Boys, sound: 'Tis seldom the old man happens to be in a better humour; therefore perhaps he may make the *Brick-layers* and other Workmen, whom he naturally signifies, to have one Grain of *Honesty*, for a Fortnight, about the middle of this Month, which is more than 'tis possible they ever had since they learnt their Trade. Therefore, O ye, all the Lovers of Building, who will needs undo your selves without any manner of peradventure, hearken to my Instructions, make use of this juncture of time, perhaps you may not meet with the like again. *One grain of honesty in Brick-layers, and that for a fortnight.*

10. AOF.

12. AOF.

28. AOF.

Observations

Observations on March. 1680.

A *Strologers* ! a word of comfort t^e ye ! your Father *Mercury* is pleased, and laughs, whether at you, or for you, I matter not much. Bear up as craftily as ye are wont, seem to know and foretel all things : Learned *Jupiter* looks favourably upon you ; but what then ? for one word good, I can tell you two or three bad. *Mars*, near the middle of this Month, is in *Conjunction* of *Mercury*, which will most certainly make *Astrologers* at this time right *Artists* at picking o' Pockets ; nay, if a man chance to be born at this time, there's no truth in *Astrology*, if the *Native* does not prove either a *Thief*, or an *Astrologer*, or both. Again, he's *Combust*, and *Saturn* squares him ; that is, his little nimble Sons will be trampled upon by Great Men, and despised by those who know the world never so little. Good people, you are advised this Month to brew good store of Drink, to make much of your selves, and to lie with your Wives lovingly and boldly, notwithstanding the *Conjunction* of *Mars* and *Mercury*. 'Tis a good time, let me tell you : Who knows what they'l be doing, when your *Children* come to be *Natives* ; or whether they'l be playing the Rogue, playing the Fool, or not playing at all.

3. * ♄. ♀.

19. ☉ ♂ ♄.

12. ♂ ♂ ♀.

15. ☐ ♀ ♀.

Observations on April. 1680.

Venus being now in her *Exaltation* in *Pisces*, and the season of the Year beginning to warm her Veins, she sends forth many a sigh for the longed *Conjunction*, next Month, with her Servant and Stallion *Mars*. But *Jupiter* does his best to satisfy the Extravagance of her Appetite, and closely imbraces her about the Neck, kissing her over and over for a few days. For though *Jupiter*, well *Dignified*, signifies a Chaste, Virtuous Man, yet being *weak*, as he is in *Taurus*, his *weakness* ('tis true *Astrology*, I assure you!) makes him the stronger and more rampant at a Woman. When *Jupiter* has done, *Saturn* takes her to task, squares and squints at her, and is very angry, he knows not why, or wherefore; but I am apt to guess, 'tis because he's too Old to do any thing with her. Now 'tis very strange by the by, that it should be thus the humour of all old people, to envy the pleasures of younger. But that they may neither despair themselves, nor hinder other people from following the Fashion of these *Excellent Times*, I'll tell them, that of late years there's a neat *Invention*, called *Flogging*, invented on purpose to pleasure Old Fumblers, or weak Youngsters: what it is, they may easily learn at Betty B——'s School, or Moor-fields.

2. * ♀. ♀.

17. □ ♀.

Observa.

Observations on May. 1680.

NOW ~~we~~ ^{we} rejoice, for before this Month is over, she is to enjoy the Embraces of her dearly Beloved, Stout, and Lusty *Mans*. And though indeed it does not happen, till toward the end; yet for the *swet Succours* sake, because 'tis such acceptable News to all *Sons of Whores*, I can't choole but begin with it. One thing is very Observable, that whenever the *Astrologers*, who write *Ephemeris's*, and teach people to *Conjure*, do find *Mars* and *Venus* in *Conjunction*, they won't let them *separate* so soon as other *Polks*, but keep them a day or two longer in *Conjunction* than they need to do. I am afraid if the truth were known they like the sport a little too much themselves. The *Malevolents* look a little withfully upon one another. Perhaps there may be some friendly Correspondence between Rogues, and Knaves, in order to do some notable mischief. But the *Sun's* coming into *Gemini*, *London's Significator*, may possibly warrant its Shining upon this City this year, as much as it did the last. For it will continue in that Sign, just as many Days, Hours, and Minutes, as it uses to do. *Mercury* can't forbear being *burnt* again in the Rayes of the *Sun*, and runs backward into the danger rather than elcape it: which signifies, that some *Astrologers* will be so bold a to expose their Ridiculous Conceits in the Eyes of the World, and before persons of Judgment and Authority; which may prove their Ruine beyond hopes of recovery. For while they Sneak in holes, and corners, and only tempt those unhappy Women who have lost their Sweet Hearts, to come and ask when they'l return, or when they shall have new ones, there's no great harm. But have a care of the *Sun*. 'Twill *Burn*, if you approach too near.

27. ☿ ☿ ☿.

♄ ☉ ♄.

5. * ♄ ☿.

♄ R.

Observations on June. 1680.

Jupiter, Venus, and Mercury, all in *Conjunction* in the beginning of *Gemini*, may signifie more than *Italy*, or *Albuzer* have thought on. *Tradesmen* may leave off *Cheating* and *Lying*; *Whores* may a little forbear *scouring Fleet-street* and the *Strand*; *Sluts* may look cleanly; your true *Coffee-men*, may talk *Loyally* and *Peaceably*; your *Smoakers* may be as wise as they seem; But *Courtiers* will not forsake the *Ladies Company*, nor *Fops* the *Play-Houses*. That's plain.

Mars afflicting *Jupiter* this Month, may shew, That *Ecclesiasticks* will not be had in so great *Veneration* as they were in the times of *Papery*. What if some of them, who have used themselves to *Coaches* a long time; should be forced to try how they can walk a-foot. No less than seven *Conjunctions* of six Planets; and not one other *Aspect*! You know what *Conjunctions* signifie with us: perhaps the heat of the Season may incline them to *sympathise* with us. *Venus* makes three of them, and would have been contented with all the rest, if the coldness of old *Saturn* could have pleased her better.

2. ♄ ♃ ♃

3. ♄ ♃ ♃

12. ♄ ♃ ♃

23. ♄ ♃ ♃

28. ♄ ♃ ♃

Observations on July. 1680.

I Hear Astrologers by this time taking me to my Task, and wondring I forgot the *Moon*, their chief Goddess, all this while. Shall I tell you then? The *Moon* would take up so much time to mind all her *Motions*, the *Trines*, *Sextiles*, *Squares*, and *Oppositions*, she makes to every *Planet*, several times every Month, that I should not have a minutes leisure to observe the *Addresses* of her betters: She is such a strange odd Woman, that I care not how little I have to do with her, there's hardly a day sometimes passes in a whole Month, but she's making of *Courtships*, tempting or provoking some of the *Planets*, nay I have known her sometimes in one day have something to do with every one of them: One she lies with, a second claps her on the Breech, a third kisses her, she huffs a fourth, squints at a fifth, and declares open War, the utmost enmity, in the sixth, and in a few days rings the Bells backward, shews her good and bad side to'em all, but *Astrologers* are not of my Mind, they'll hardly stir abroad unless the *Moon* be in some good *Aspect*: when she beholds *Jupiter* or the *Sun*, then they'll be so bold as confidently to wait on *Persons* of *Quality*.

Observations

Observations on August. 1680.

THE sun and Moon being by this time far advanced together in *Leo*, may be apt to make several proud sons of the *reborn* of *Rome* look as high above *Protestants*, as they did before the *Piet* broke out: but before the end of this Month *Jupiter* comes and squares the *sun*, which may notably denote, that *Papist Ecclesiasticks* will by an over-weening Opinion of their own Capacity in *Politics*, run themselves into some further prejudice with this Nation. A little before the Murder of *Sir Edmundbury Godfrey*, there might have been some such ill Aspect, for they were then strangely out in their *Politics*, and through mistake may prove to have blasted the fair hopes of every *Papist* in this Kingdom, and hung themselves in a string, instead of destroying that worthy Gentleman. A little before the mentioned square, *Saturn* and *Mars*, the great Conjurors of *Milchief*, meet together to conspire, and it being in *Quincy*, a veritable Sign, we have all of us reason to fear the worst.

28 □ ♄ ○.

20. 6 h 3 in 5.

Observations

Observations on September. 1680.

M*ars* and *Venus* meet again in a kind loving way this Month, and the *Sun* gets as close to her, as 'tis possible: They are both such hot Blades, that I can't warrant her from catching a *Clap*; only we may hope well of her side, because she's at home in *Libra*, in her own *House*, where she may take as much care of her self as she pleases. The *Sun* is in his *Fall*, and his *Reins* weak: The over-great heat of the Summer, and his many lecherous *Conjunctions*, may have much occasioned it. 'Tis *Mars* that helps to spit Fire from *Leo*: Therefore I would by all means advise our Ladies of Pleasure, to have a care how they bestow themselves about this time; for if they should catch a Mischance, they'l be apt to meet with an ill cure, by taking some ill *Preparation* of *Mercury*, he being now *Retrograde*; and out of humour. Besides, *Saturn* *Squares* the *Goddeſs* they pay their *Devotion* to; so that if *Jupiter* does not help with his most kind Countenance, I know not what will become of her. He is in a *double-bodied Sign* indeed, and is naturally of a very sound temper of body; so that 'tis likely enough he may do the *Harlots* some remarkable piece of service.

10. * ♂ ♀ ♂ in ♏.

12. ○ in ♋.

♀ R. in ♋.

26. □ ♀.

21. △ ♀.

♂ in □.

Observations on October. 1680.

M*ercury* is all this Month in *lecherous Signs*; so that *Astrologers* will be *hot*, though the Weather be *cold*: But have a care, I warn ye, what ye do, while *Saturn* is in an ill humour. The Old Man has been a long time in a *Paw-Sign*, and is well enough inclin'd by this time, but he's apt to be *Envious*; yet being told by one of the wisest of his Admirers, that he shall shortly enjoy a very pretty Lady, and have more vigour than his Age will allow, he grows extraordinary well pleased before the Month is over, and makes a *Trine* to *Mercury*: with a great many thanks. Well, but *Mars* and *Venus*, Lovers, fall out: I wonder at it, because *Venus* is got into *Scorpio*, which signifies the main thing that he loves her for, and 'tis one of his *Houses*; so that he's very rude and ill-natur'd, to have no more respect for her at such a time, and in such a place. *Mercury* is *Combust*, and in *Scorpio* too; so that *Astrologers* should look to't, that they don't meddle too much with the Girls that come to ask them Questions. But 'tis no great matter if they be *bit* by the *Scorpion*; they pretend to have the *Faculty* of *curing* themselves: For *Culpepper* has made *Physicians* of many an *Old Woman*, as well as *Astrologers*.

♄ in ♈
 5. ☐ ♄ ☉.
 31. △ ♄ ♄.
 24. ☐ ♄ ♀.

Observa-

Observations on November. 1680.

Heat and Cold, Saturn and the Sun are very obliging and Complemental, the beginning of this Month; but I fancy, 'tis only *Courtiers kindness*, your *Humble Servant* a thousand times over, when they hate and despise you at Heart. The Sun, Venus, and Mercury, are all in Opposition of Jupiter; so that I can't tell what to think of the *Bishops*. Three to one's odds, Man, Woman, and Child, say you? I wish their Lordships well in health, and well to pass. The Moon does even the same things she uses to do: Whether she's most apt to make the Weather Cold now, or Rainy in September, I leave the Learned to consider. If *Astrologers* would believe more in God, than they do in her, I should not be so angry with 'em: but I warrant they'll set a Figure to find me out; I fear 'em not, *S---* himself knew nothing on't, when a man lay with his wife. Let them disprove my *Observations* if they can, I dare vindicate the truth of them by keen dint of Pen, against e're a He amongst 'em. But then they must write *mighty soberly*, or else they'll hardly tempt me to lose my time with 'em.

4. Δ \odot \odot
 6. \odot \times \odot
 13. \odot \times \odot
 22. \odot \times \odot

Observations on December. 1680.

Gentlemen, ye're very welcome to the last Month; in troth I'm a'most tired, th' have cost me a full mornings work, and 'tis not good to surfeit. If you are not quite tir'd too, I would tell you a little more News before we depart. *Jupiter* and *Mars* are in their hottest loves with *Venus* this coldest time o'th' year, but *Saturn* is as cold to her as the Weather. 'Tis very likely *Astrologers* may get a *Shilling* for a *Figure*, and a *Groat* for an *Urinal* upon the *Trine* of *Mars* and *Mercury*; the direction happens twice this Month, so that 'twould be very probable they would get enough to pay for *Meat*, *Drink*, and *Lodging*, if *Saturn* did not oppose it, as he does twice too. Last Month I told you how kind and Ceremonious the *Sun* and *Saturn* were, I told you 'twas but hollow-heartedness, for now they are passing at one another with all the eagerness that can be. And now, my dear good Reader, I hope I have diverted thee a little, but shall not much concern my self to know too much of thy mind in that point; please thy self, and thou pleasest me.

1. Δ δ η .29. δ η \odot .10. Δ η η .7. Δ δ η .18. Δ δ η .12. δ η η .19. δ η η .

THE Stars, Ethereal Bard, to thee Shine clear,
And all our future Fates thou mak'st appear.

But that thy Wife is Common all men know,
Yet what all see, there's not a Star doth show.
Saturn is blind, or some long Journey gone,
Not able to discern an Infant from a Stone.
The *Moon* is fair, and as she's fair, she's Chast,
And won't behold thy Wife so lewdly embrac't.
Europa Feet, *Mars* *Venus*, the *Mars* Courts;
With *Daphne* *Sol*, with *Hirc* *Hermes* sports.
Thus while the Stars their wanton Love pursue,
No wonder, Cuckold, they'll not tell thee true.

More's Epigram.

FINIS.